

Suggestions & Questions

I would like to make a suggestion on our snow/ice control operations. Who can I send it to?

We are happy to receive and consider your suggestions. Send them to:

City of Port Alberni
4150 6th Ave
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 4M9
ATTENTION: Randy Fraser
Streets Superintendent

How much do you spend on this service and can you reduce costs?

We try to keep a good balance between levels of service and expenditures by continually trying to improve our service with minimal or no increase in cost. The weather, of course, is the largest factor in annual costs.

Snow and Ice Control Expenditures

| Year | Snowfall (cm) | Amount |
|------|---------------|-----------|
| 1988 | 31 | \$ 27,300 |
| 1989 | 46 | 83,600 |
| 1990 | 168 | 212,300 |
| 1991 | 120 | 165,700 |
| 1992 | 47 | 46,900 |
| 1993 | 69 | 158,700 |
| 1994 | 103 | 145,000 |
| 1995 | 61 | 130,000 |
| 1996 | 92 | 296,000 |
| 1997 | 73 | 122,600 |
| 1998 | 71 | 121,600 |
| 1999 | 43 | 75,000 |
| 2000 | 63 | 327,200 |
| 2001 | 29 | 83,000 |
| 2002 | 24 | 130,000 |
| 2003 | 60 | 119,000 |
| 2004 | 57 | 222,000 |
| 2005 | 27 | 154,000 |
| 2006 | 90 | 229,000 |
| 2007 | 73 | 184,000 |
| 2008 | 154 | 416,000 |
| 2009 | 67 | 344,369 |
| 2010 | 20 | 129,206 |
| 2011 | 60 | 202,093 |

Snow and Ice Control Operations

City snow control and de-icing is provided by Municipal employees and equipment.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Trucks with Brine Tanks & Plows | 2 |
| Trucks with Sanders & Plows | 3 |
| Graders | 2 |
| Loaders | 2 |
| Backhoes | 2 |




CITY OF
PORT ALBERNI

Snow and Ice Control



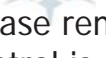


Introduction




Each winter, the Streets Section of the Public Works Branch, Engineering Department has the responsibility of maintaining in a safe and passable condition approximately 153 km of paved and gravel streets within the City of Port Alberni. We endeavor to accomplish this task in the most cost effective manner possible, while still maintaining a high level of service.

This brochure was prepared to provide you with some basic information on how our division performs this service and to answer questions which you may have concerning this aspect of the Municipal operations. We hope you will find this pamphlet informative and we invite your comments on it.



Please remember that snow and ice control is not a substitute for caution and defensive driving practices when operating a vehicle under winter conditions. We have noticed that the vehicles in Port Alberni encountering the most difficulties do not have proper winter tires or chains. We wish you a safe and enjoyable winter season and look forward to serving you in the months ahead.




Questions & Answers About Snow Operations




Why does the city use salt and sand?

Salt and salt brine are de-icing agents used to prevent the initial build-up of snow and ice on paved roadways due to salt's lower freezing temperature. Salt brine is applied to the streets prior to predicted snow events to prevent snow from freezing to the asphalt. Salt is also used to break up accumulations of ice and snow. Sand is an abrasive and is primarily used to improve traction on an already slippery surface.




What streets get plowed and salted?

Salting and plowing priorities are based on volumes of traffic. The main streets or 'arterials' are completed first. The 'collector' streets have the next highest volume and are attended to after the arterials. These include all City Transit and school bus routes. Residential streets are plowed last and will be only plowed after regular hours if the snow accumulation is over 15 cm.




Why can't the city remove the snow they put in my drive entrance?

When you consider the large number of driveways in the City, it becomes very time consuming and costly to use additional people and equipment to perform this service.



May I place the snow from my driveway onto the street?

The placing of snow on the street is not permitted under the City's Traffic Control By-Law. This regulation helps to ensure that potentially dangerous situations for motorists are avoided and allows for proper drainage along curbs.



Who can I call if I have a complaint or request?

For plowing and sanding, call 720-2840 during normal working hours (7:00 am - 4:30 pm). After normal working hours, weekends and statutory holidays, calls should be directed to 724-1351.

